CITY LIBRARY
MANCHESTER, N. H.
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REPORT

OF THE

TREASURER,

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR,

AND

TRUSTEES OF THE LIBRARY,

OF THE

TOWN OF AMHERST,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1st, 1883.

AMHERST:
CABINET PRESS.
1883

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REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER.

Dr. Cash Received.

To balance in Treasury March 1, 1882,	$1,540 16	
Taxes assessed,	9,360 95	
Railroad Tax,	313 62	
Savings Bank Tax,	2,286 84	
Literary Fund,	114 54	
Lots sold in cemetery,	18 00	
Interest on Lawrence Fund,	56 00	
Town of New Boston, school money,	36 94	
Rent of Town Hall,	107 75	
Interest on taxes for 1882,	12 52	
Collector for 1880,	628 35	
Liquor suits, prosecution from Roger Dillon,	40 00	
Collector for 1881,	100 00	
New Boston, school house tax,	14 90	
Mont Vernon, " " "	27 68	
Liquor money, from selectmen,	86 93	
Received of Chas. Richardson, bondman for collector of 1874,	150 00	
Received of H. Eaton, bondman for collector of 1874,	150 00	
Received of selectmen, for use of road machine,	9 00	
Received of E. M. Holt, by selectmen,	2 00	
		$15,065 18

Cr. By cash paid out.

State Tax,	$1,844 00	
County Tax,	1,406 73	
Town Officers,	990 09	
Miscellaneous,	1,919 17	
Snow Bills,	156 12	
Roads and Bridges,	1,410 77	
Principal and Interest,	1,846 75	
Schools,	3,851 09	
Fire Department,	115 66	
Aid to Mrs. Berry,	15 00	
In hands of Collector for 1882,	100 00	
N. K. Holt for town farm,	15 67	
		$13,671 05
In hands of Treasurer,		1,394 13
		$15,065 18

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Chas. S. Parker, labor on highway,	$11 16
Robt. M. Wallace, cost of Com's on Waite road,	42 25
I. S. Berry, plank for bridge,	7 16
Joseph E. Fowle, labor on highway,	15 73
Granville Parker,	16 45
Robert Atkinson, labor on highway,	2 00
A. B. Woodward, " "	33 25
Geo. P. Boutelle, " "	21 15
C. J. Clark, " "	10 12
W. L. Cross, " "	32 69
George Blood, " "	8 62
Joseph H. Drucker, " "	73 50
J. C. Boutell, shingling bridge,	57 66

James G. Hazeltine, planks for bridge,	11 46	
" " " "	48 40	
C. S. White, roads and bridges,	6 91	
H. W. Keyes, labor on highway,	23 75	
A. F. Sawyer, shingles for bridge,	131 25	
Smith Berry, planking for bridge, old bill,	50	
G. R. Hartshorn, planking for bridge,	11 45	
Chas. J. Clark, labor on highway,	36 00	
Jos. H. Drucker, " "	216 00	
Geo. H. Blood, " "	33 76	
Oliver Carter, highways and bridges,	41 00	
Luther B. Converse, labor on highway,	13 44	
B. B. Whiting, labor on highway,	8 84	
D. A. Peabody, " "	23 66	
Albert Lowe, " "	75	
C. S. White, " "	3 21	
Ira A. Batchelder, " "	6 00	
Chester Shipley, " "	4 50	
Lorenzo Carr, " "	4 25	
Henry S. Gllson, lumber for bridge,	2 00	
D. S. Burnham, nails for bridge,	9 75	
W. D. Forsaith, " "	1 60	
Jas. Cochran, planking for bridge,	7 05	
Solo. Prince, repairs on bridge and railing,	10 50	
Jas. U. Prince, labor on highway,	2 00	
W. L. Cross, " "	5 50	
W. H. Hubbard, " "	8 48	
Frank W. Chase, " "	8 90	
F. W. Noyes, " "	7 92	
Wm. Peaslee, " "	4 50	
J. P. Trow, " "	5 45	
" " " plank for bridge,	11 16	
John A. Boutelle posts for railing,	5 36	
C. F. Wright, putting up railing,	22 14	
Chester Shipley, labor on bridge,	27 25	
	———	$1,095 42

EXPENSES OF NEW ROAD BY SIMON AYER.

H. Shattuck, land damage,	$70 00	
John H. Coggin, land damage,	30 00	
Geo. E. Boutell, land damage,	10 00	
Luther Coggin, appraising land damage,	3 00	
L. P. Duncklee, building new road,	202 35	
		$315 35

SNOW BILLS.

Alpheus Stevens, old bill,	$3 97
Lemuel Fuller, " "	4 35
Joseph Hanson,	3 00
H. W. Keyes,	5 00
Luther B. Converse,	6 12
A. B. Woodward,	3 15
D. A. Peabody,	6 18
Chester Shipley,	2 75
Ira A. Batchelder,	1 78
C. S. White,	3 05
E. B. Waite,	5 25
Jacob B. Upham,	3 44
Albert Lowe,	1 95
H. S. Boutell,	3 75
W. H. Colston, old bill,	1 50
Joseph E. Fowle,	2 75
C. A. Peabody,	6 80
Daniel W. Trow,	2 75
Soloman Prince,	3 15
Chas. S. Parker,	3 57
Jas. Cochran,	18 60
W. L. Cross,	11 46
W. H. Hubbard,	4 47
F. W. Mace,	1 50

Frank W. Chase,	2 00	
Granville Parker,	8 05	
H. M. Parker,	2 08	
Jas. Cochran,	7 80	
Chas. F. Wright, 1882 bill,	8 25	
Wm. Peasley,	2 70	
J. P. Trow,	7 95	
Chas. F. Wright,	7 00	
	———	$156 12

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

A. A. Rotch, for fire department,	$75 00	
F. L. Holt, for Yankee Engine Co.,	3 25	
J. B. Fay, steward Engine Co.,	22 41	
J. F. Osgood, fireward,	5 00	
J. B. Fay and E. R. Burtt, firewards,	10 00	
	———	$115 66

PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST.

Ellen F. McAlvin, interest,	$26 00	
Abel T. Rideout, "	16 25	
Geo. W. Bosworth, "	6 25	
Mary F. Hardy, "	10 00	
Frank Hartshorn, principal and interest,	1,100 00	
Mary R. Fletcher, " " "	688 25	
	———	$1,846 75

PAUPERS OFF THE FARM.

Aid to Mrs. Berry,	$15 00	
	———	$15 00

TOWN OFFICERS.

Joseph P. Trow, selectman,	$160 00	
John H. Coggin, "	136 50	
Joel H. Fisher, "	127 00	
J. O. Pulsifer, treasurer,	50 00	
A. A. Rotch, town clerk,	58 00	
Wm. B. Rotch, collector,	75 00	
A. B. Bennett, police officer 5 years,	10 00	
H. G. McIntire, services on Board of Education in 1881, old bill,	85 00	
F. W. Mace, moderator, two terms,	10 00	
H. G. McIntire, supervisor of check list from 1880—82,	5 00	
G. W. Bosworth and P. W. Dodge, auditors,	6 00	
E. R. Burtt, police,	7 00	
W. H. Hubbard, supervisor,	10 00	
James F. Weston, "	3 00	
Jas. U. Prince, " three terms,	15 00	
J. P. Trow, overseer of the poor,	17 00	
John H. Coggin, " " " "	6 50	
Joel H. Fisher, " " " "	9 00	
Geo. W. Bosworth, services on Board of Education,	76 07	
J. G. Davis, " " " " Education,	57 38	
Geo. W. Putnam, " " " " Education,	60 64	
Chas. S. Parker, auditor,	3 00	
Isaac B. Dodge, "	3 00	
		$990 09

SCHOOLS.

G. W. Bosworth, treas. Board of Education, for regular school expenses,	$2,851 09

Geo. W. Bosworth, treas., for repairs of school houses,	1,000 00	
	—— —	$3,851 09

MISCELLANEOUS.

Dr. W. H. Dinsmore, on act. of vaccinating school children,	$50 00
Horatio McIntire, reg. births and deaths,	1 75
S. D. Herrick, building for road machine,	100 00
J. P. Trow, paid Coburn & Wadleigh, services,	5 00
J. P. Trow, " A. W. Sawyer, legal advice,	5 00
E. R. Burtt, for cemetery fence,	25 97
B. B. Whiting, wood for town house,	13 50
J. O. Pulsifer, insuring town buildings,	37 50
J. F. Boynton, drain pipe,	15 40
Robert Atkinson, mowing grass on common,	3 60
" " work in cemetery,	21 20
Dr. W. H. W. Hinds, varioloid case,	31 50
John C. Philbrick, on acct. small pox,	31 56
Frank P. Phelps, on acct. of Decoration,	50 00
J. P. Trow, money paid out for defending Waite road,	20 00
Lucretia B. Myrick, for library,	100 00
Geo. B. Melendy, water bill,	18 00
P. S. Barrett, sheep killed,	10 00
Robt. M. Wallace, legal services on road case,	150 00
Ephraim W. Jones, sheep killed by dogs,	25 00
J. O. Pulsifer, express to Nashua, Manchester and Concord,	15 00
S. E. Staples, water on highway, two years,	6 00
B. B. David, water bill,	12 00
J. B. Fay, repairs at town hall,	4 45

D. S. Butterick, plank for watering trough,	6 87
J. F. Osgood, Jr., ironing " "	6 25
" " " " repairing road machine,	3 30
A. F. Stevens, legal advice, old bill,	25 00
E. B. S. Sanborn, " " " "	10 00
Wm. Pratt, expense to Tilton, old bill,	4 50
Chas. Richardson, insuring bell tower Cong. ch., old bill,	15 00
A. H. Parker, labor on cemetery,	6 00
F. K. Boutell, services as undertaker,	67 70
N. K. Holt, balance accts. at poor farm,	15 66
H. M. Parker, making and lettering sign board	2 00
" " " making watering trough,	5 00
" " " case of library room,	5 00
" " " curtain for town house,	5 50
" " " sundry bills " "	3 00
F. W. Mace, watering place,	3 00
S. H. Hill, " "	3 00
H. S. Boutell, " "	3 00
A. M. Philbrick, " "	3 00
John A. Boutell, " "	3 00
John H. Coggin, " "	3 00
J. A. Ober, " "	3 00
Mary W. Putnam, " "	3 00
Kidder & Whitney, rope for bell,	1 22
C. S. Averill, drain pipe, old bill,	1 16
Joel H. Fisher, bounty on crows,	9 70
Isaac P. McKean, painting common fence, '81,	8 25
" " " graveyard fence and hearse house,	71 59
J. H. Drucker, lever for road machine,	50
Henry M. Parker, oil, etc., for town house,	15 90
" " " putting up stage and cleaning hall,	13 60
" " " services in town hall,	51 75

Boylston & Rotch, printing advertising, etc.,	75 00	
A. A. Rotch, paid physicians for return of births and deaths,	3 25	
" " " return of births, deaths and marriages,	10 05	
" " " making leases for stone quarry,	1 50	
W. B. Rotch, printing reports and orders,	24 50	
" " " copying, stationery and recording deed,	13 62	
Geo. W. Putnam, 5 dinners while making check list,	1 50	
" " " making check list,	37 75	
Abatements of taxes for 1882,	159 37	
" " " " 1880 and 1881,	3 01	
Discount on taxes,	356 19	
Frank Hartshorn, rails, etc., for graveyard fence,	63 56	
" " floor boards and timber,	6 49	
" " watering place,	3 00	
Robert T. Knight, care of town clock,	15 00	
Daniel W. Trow, repairing road machine,	14 50	
		$1,919 17

TOWN DEBT.

Amount of notes against the town,		$1,870 00
In Treasurer's hands,	$1,394 13	
In Collector's hands,	100 00	
Liquor and fixtures,	60 42	
		$1,554 55
Total amount of town debt,		$315 45

Respectfully submitted,

JEREMIAH O. PULSIFER, Treasurer.

AMHERST, March 3rd, 1883.

We hereby certify that we have examined and audited the foregoing accounts of the Town Treasurer of the town of Amherst, for the present year, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

ISAAC B. DODGE,
CHARLES S. PARKER, } Auditors.

REPORT

OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1883.

EXPENDITURES.

Paid	N. K. Holt and wife, services,	$300	00
"	F. E. " " " "	250	00
"	D. Whiting & Sons, grain,	400	11
"	W. D. Forsaith, groceries, etc.,	249	99
"	S. Wilkins, 1 load of sawdust,		25
"	A. P. Shepard, mason work,	2	67
"	W. K. Putnam & Co., halter, repairing harness, etc.,	13	39
"	H. H. Barber, dry goods,	5	45
"	D. S. Burnham, barbed wire, hardware, etc.,	25	78
"	Geo. F. Wheeler, one sifter,		75
"	J. H. Holt, for butter,	3	22
"	J. B. Fay, lead pipe, labor and repairing tin ware,	9	54
"	Gilson & Kendall, grain,	16	83
"	Emerson & Son, chairs,	7	40
"	S. C. Coburn, one pair boots and repairing,	3	25
"	L. Holt, one whip,	1	50
"	James J. H. Gregory, garden seeds,	1	32
"	Charles Tarbell, 2 whiffletrees,	1	25
"	Ira Chase, fish and crackers,	20	94
"	O. N. Willoby, carrying milk,	38	82
"	" " " 2 lbs. butter,		64
"	A. A. Gilbert, butter and veal,	12	25
"	H. V. Davis, corn planter,	1	50

Paid	H. C. Dodge, cloth oil, etc.,	1	92
"	A. Chase & Co., hay,	20	60
"	J. A. Ober & Co., cap and shirts,	2	00
"	Ben F. Butterfield, labor,	38	00
"	Charles B. Sargent, tinware, broom, etc.,	4	67
"	John Carlton, cleaning and oiling 2 clocks,	1	65
"	E. C. Batchelder, 12 yds. print,		60
"	W. H. Dinsmore, medical attendance,	27	50
"	H. S. Gilson, sawing and planing boards,		30
"	J. C. Boutell, shingling at town farm,	11	50
"	J. A. Wheeler, crockery and stationery,	1	60
"	C. H. Nutt, barbed wire fence,	9	72
"	C. Converse, 2 bottles liniment,	1	75
"	J. F. Boynton, soapstone stove, etc.,	4	30
"	J. H. Blake, dry goods,	2	78
"	for 12½ lbs. beef,		75
"	Peacock & Philbrick, making cider,		63
"	C. H. Spalding & Co., horse shoeing and job work,	4	27
"	W. S. Peasley, rubber urinal,	5	00
"	J. H. Fisher, butter,	14	70
"	W. D. Sargent, butchering,	3	25
"	J. P. Trow, cotton, seed, meal,	62	00
"	Ira A. Batchelder, 1 bushel rye, use of boar,	2	00
"	Foster Brothers, making sausage,	2	32
"	G. Shannesy, whiffletrees and reach,	2	00
"	2 oranges for Bissell,		08
"	Franklin Abbott, one cow,	40	00
"	J. H. Fisher, pasturing cattle and use of bull,	25	64
"	J. C. Boutell, one cow,	50	00
"	E E. Kendall, grain and groceries,	55	80
"	H. M. Parker, filing saws, tomato plants,	2	15
"	J. A. Boutell, vinegar,	2	00
"	Geo. Danforth, labor,	4	50
"	Bartlett & Dodge, tobacco,		20
"	J. F. Osgood, Jr., horse shoeing,		40
"	C. Cross, sawdust and oil,		50
"	Geo. K. Walker, meat,	56	18

Paid L. Pearsons, filing saw,	15
" L. M. Evans, two pairs men's socks,	95
	$1,844 92

RECEIPTS

AT TOWN FARM FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1883.

John Scully, one calf,	$ 50
John Philbrick, eggs,	1 95
A. P. Shepard, pork,	67
J. Philbrick, eggs,	1 10
J. U. Prince, horse,	50 00
J. Philbrick, eggs,	2 08
L. Coggin, 2 calves,	1 00
Geo. Danforth, teaming,	2 00
Foster Bros., calf skins,	1 85
For 5 pigs,	24 00
Cash for calf skins,	1 20
Use of harrow,	45
½ Bush. potatoes,	50
1 Pig,	4 00
Use of harrow,	50
1 Pig,	4 00
W. D. Forsaith,	3 24
Use of harrow,	20
Eggs,	2 17
Dinner for two men,	50
Eggs,	38
Potatoes,	8 60
Use of roller,	25
" " harrow,	1 00
Eggs,	80
1 Calf,	8 50
Cow to S. E. Staples,	10 00
Keeping horse,	2 50
Eggs,	84

Keeping pedler,	1 00
Foster Bros., calf,	9 10
Eggs,	66
Foster Bros., 1 cow,	39 15
John Philbrick, pigs,	8 00
" " calf,	75
Eggs,	20
O. N. Willoby, butter,	2 50
Eggs,	1 17
Old iron and rags,	1 70
J. A. Boutell, grass,	13 00
L. Coggin, 2 calves,	1 50
J. A. Boutell, calf,	50
" " " 1 pig,	2 50
1 Calf,	75
Drawing out trees,	50
Labor at ledge,	1 00
Eggs,	87
15 Pigs,	33 75
Foster Bros., beef,	56 70
1 Calf,	50
Teaming for G. Danforth,	5 00
Cash for keeping Mr. Harris,	75
Beets,	25
1 Pig and barrels,	3 50
Beets and Sausage,	3 56
H. S. Gilson for stave timber,	63 25
Eggs,	97
Foster Bros., 3 cows,	101 38
Eggs,	38
Calf skins,	1 00
Use of Bull,	2 50
1 Pig,	5 00
J. A. Boutell, drawing timber,	51 00
Use of Bull,	2 50
1 Calf,	50
1 Bush. Corn,	1 00

For stone,	9 81
G. K. Walker for pork, beef and hides,	49 62
Cash of James Webster,	1 00
J. H. Fisher, for stone,	6 76
E. T. Nichols, sled and cabbage,	7 75
Milk sold, 4,472 cans,	1,200 99
Drew from Treasurer,	15 67
	$1,844 92

(One month's milk bill due.)

J. P. TROW,
J. H. COGGIN,
JOEL H. FISHER,
} Overseers of Poor.

We have examined the foregoing accounts and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

ISAAC B. DODGE,
CHAS. S. PARKER,
} Auditors.

Inventory of Personal Property at Town Farm.

18 tons English hay,	$360 00
11 tons stock hay,	110 00
Corn fodder,	7 00
Meal,	13 50
2 bushels beans,	6 00
60 bushels corn,	60 00
2 horses,	285 00
17 cows,	820 00
Young stock,	20 00
4 hogs,	58 00
37 hens,	21 00
1 mowing machine,	63 00
1 horse hoe,	2 00
1 horse rake,	24 00
1 roller,	14 00
4 plows,	12 00
1 plow,	11 00
1 harrow,	2 00
1 corn planter,	1 50
1 wagon jack,	1 00
1 lumber wagon,	12 00
1 farm wagon,	50 00
2 carts,	76 00
1 stone body,	3 00
1 traverse runner sled,	23 00
Sled shoe patterns,	50
2 horse yokes,	1 75
1 slide yoke,	3 00
6 whiffletrees,	3 50

1 evener,	1 00
Wheelbarrow and hand sled,	5 50
7 chains,	6 00
Scythe and snath,	2 00
Randall harrow,	25 00
2 cultivators,	2 00
1 horse fork and ropes,	2 00
1 hay cutter,	3 00
1 corn sheller,	1 00
2 hand rakes and 2 drag rakes,	1 50
5 pitch forks,	2 50
4 shovels,	2 50
3 hoes, 2 potato diggers,	2 00
1 spade,	80
1 post axe,	75
1 iron bar,	1 25
2 wood saws,	2 00
3 cant hooks,	1 25
2 paris green shakers,	50
5 axes,	3 25
Hinges and screws,	75
Hog hook, scalding tub,	75
3 manure forks and hook,	2 00
1 light wagon,	35 00
1 pair double harnesses,	25 00
2 single harnesses,	25 00
1 sleigh,	3 00
Wolf robe and blankets,	10 00
1 whip,	1 00
Hook and ladders,	7 50
4 baskets,	1 25
1 set dry measures,	75
1 cart spire,	1 00
5 flour barrels,	1 00
Fan mill,	6 00
2 vinegar barrels and vinegar,	2 50
Soap grease,	1 00

4 lbs. butter,	1 20
Cabbage,	2 00
Bog shoes,	3 00
Shingles,	2 00
2 pair steelyards and 4 augers,	2 50
1 grindstone,	4 50
Corn cutters,	60
Knife and tub,	75
Hungarian seed,	30
1 root cutter,	1 00
4 hammers, screw driver and nippers,	2 25
1 hand saw,	1 25
Beetle wedges and saw set,	1 50
5 stoves,	32 00
2 tea kettles,	1 25
4 iron pots,	3 00
3 flat irons,	1 00
Frying pay and kettles,	1 00
1 apple parer,	50
Brass kettle,	2 50
Tin and cooking ware,	11 00
Crockery ware and spoon holder,	10 00
9 tumblers, 2 salters,	80
Spoons, knives and forks,	11 00
$\frac{2}{3}$ barrel flour,	4 75
36 lbs. lard,	4 50
Groceries,	4 00
Soap,	50
42 bush. potatoes,	42 00
Turnips, carrots and beets,	3 50
1 cider barrel and cider,	2 00
Pickles,	2 00
2 cans fruit,	40
250 lbs. salt pork,	27 50
140 lbs. ham,	16 80
62 lbs. corn beef,	4 34
Bags and salt,	2 00

4 lamps. 1 lantern,	2 50
2 oil cans,	75
Stone and earthern jars,	2 00
2 pitchers,	1 00
26 fruit cans,	2 50
1 jug,	60
Oil,	45
Tallow,	1 50
1 lounge,	4 50
Wash bowl and pitcher,	1 25
23 napkins,	50
6 cane chairs,	3 00
3 rocking chairs,	2 00
24 chairs,	10 00
4 tables,	10 00
5 light stands,	1 50
5 case of drawers,	3 00
Clothes horse,	1 50
2 wash tubs,	1 00
5 wooden pails,	1 00
Wash board and bench,	1 00
6 bedsteads,	9 00
1 tea poy,	95
Clothes line and pins,	60
Wringer,	4 50
Clothes basket,	1 00
1 copper boiler,	8 00
1 halter,	1 25
Matches,	30
2 clocks,	5 00
5 mirrors,	3 00
2 coffee boxes,	50
2 trays, 5 meat barrels,	6 00
2 kegs,	1 50
1 bucket,	50
1 meal chest,	1 50
2 cheese safes,	3 00

1 rubber urinal,	5 00
8 woolen blankets,	3 00
23 cotton sheets,	5 00
34 pillow slips,	3 00
17 quilts and comforters,	17 00
1 bolster,	1 00
20 pillows,	5 00
10 feather beds,	45 00
7 straw ticks,	3 00
3 table covers,	3 00
12 roller towels,	2 00
17 cords wood,	34 00
Meat Bench,	1 00
Window curtains,	1 50
Bibles and other books,	3 00
Total,	$2,693 89

No. of paupers now at farm, 3.

J. P. TROW,
J. H. COGGIN,
J. H. FISHER,
} Overseers of Poor.

Report of Trustees of the Town Library.

At the last annual town meeting, Rev. J. G. Davis and Mr. J. E. Upton were elected to serve as trustees for three years their term of service expires in 1885. Mrs. Colcord and Rev. W. D. Leland were elected to serve for two year's, but the trust is now vacant, one having left town, the other not accepting the office. Mr. James F. Weston and Miss L. B. Myrick were elected in 1880 ; their term of service expires by limitation. Consequently four persons must be elected at the approaching town meeting as trustees of the Library. Two to fill the unexpired term, ending in March 1884, and two for the full term ending in 1886.

The regulations for the delivery and use of books belonging to the Library have been carefully observed during the year. No volumes have been lost or seriously injured. One hundred and fourteen families have drawn books from the Library. The whole number of volumes loaned was 1785 ; an average of 35 volumes per week, which is an advance on the circulation of the previous year. Within twelve months 95 volumes have been added to the Library ; of this number 93 volumes were obtained by purchase at the cost of $70,34, and two presented as gifts, viz :

1 volume, containing all the printed annual reports of the town of Amherst.

By Isaac B. Dodge, Esq.

One vol.,—Successful New Hampshire Men, with steel portraits.

By Rev. J. G. Davis.

After deducting the vacant Nos.,—a dozen books withdrawn from circulation, the Library now contains about one thousand

volumes, most of which are in good condition and well suited for general reading.

The demand for historical and biographical narratives is increasing and a preference for the choicer kinds of fiction indicates an improving taste. Books conveying information in the departments of art, science, natural history and exploration, are now multiplied in cheap and attractive forms. The trustees have sought to gratify the patrons of the Library by selections from these fresh and varied sources of knowledge and entertainment.

The following summary is from the report of the Treasurer Miss Myrick.

Cr. By balance in treasury,		$3 89	
" cash from the town,		100 00	
" " received for loan of books and fines,		3 86	
			$107 15
Dr. To books purchased, bills on file,		$70 94	
" Harper's Mag. & Granite Monthly,		4 95	
" Services of Librarian,		25 00	
" Postage, express and incidental expenses,		1 28	
Balance on hand,		4 98	
			$107 15

REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

OF THE

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AMHERST,

FOR THE

Year Ending March, 1883.

AMHERST:
CABINET PRESS.
1883.

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REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Immediately after the election of officers for the District of Amherst, the Board of Education was organized by the choice of a President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Board also determined by lot the term for which each member should hold office as prescribed by the statute, with the following result, viz :

For the term of one year, George W. Putnam.
" " two years, Geo. W. Bosworth.
" " three years, Josiah G. Davis,

and a record thereof was made by the secretary. The duties of inspection, supervision, providing fuel and making repairs were apportioned among the members of the Board, Capt. Bosworth being appointed agent to purchase fuel and furniture and take a special direction of repairs.

The largest expenditure in the way of repairs upon school houses was on Nos. 2, and 3 ; the buildings were old and needed pretty thorough renovation. In No. 2, seats and desks were repaired and painted, the roof fully shingled and the outside well painted. In No. 3, new windows and doors were supplied, the floor relaid and the house furnished with new desks and seats of the latest and most approved pattern. The building was also well painted. School houses Nos. 6,—7,—8,—9, and 10, more recent structures and less dilapidated, have all been well painted on the outside, the roofs repaired or reshingled. New seats, chairs and blackboards supplied as they were needed. No. 4, has been wholly reshingled, No. 5 painted on the outside and No. 1 cleansed, its walls white-washed and the desks, seats and doors tightened and varnished. The aim of the Board has been to make every building neat and comfortable, giving such attention to the whole, as

would preserve the property and make it available for school purposes. As might be inferred more than three-fourths of the appropriation has been expended on the buildings out of the village. The roof and coving of the Brick School House will require attention the coming season. The amount expended for repairs of school houses thus far is $773.31.

ATTENDANCE.

By the enumeration of the Selectmen in April 1882, the whole number of children of school age in town was 168, of whom 95 were boys and 73 were girls. The actual attendance during the year, as gathered from the School Registers was 226 ; boys 130, girls 96 ; of this number 26 were over 16 years of age and 14 under 6 years of age. The return of the Selectmen indicates a falling off of eleven children from the enumeration of the previous year. The attendance as stated in the School Registers indicates a falling off of twenty-three in the whole number of scholars. The average attendance as gathered from the Registers is 168. In some neighborhoods the attendance is marked by an exemplary regularity. The names of thirty scholars are given who have not been absent one half day during the year. To reduce the average attendance as we are compelled to do, shows that other scholars must have been unfortunate or negligent. Giving the attendance by schools, we have the following statement.

No.	1, Primary,	34.	Boys,	21.	Girls,	13.	Average,	29.
"	" Inter'ed'te,	26.	"	16.	"	10.	"	24.
"	" H. School,	30.	"	16.	"	14.	"	18.
"	2	29.	"	17.	"	12.	"	17.
"	3,	14.	"	8.	"	6.	"	11.
"	5,	13.	"	10.	"	3.	"	10.
"	6,	15.	"	10.	"	5.	"	11.
"	7,	21.	"	10.	"	11.	"	13.
"	8,	14.	"	8.	"	6.	"	13.
"	9,	16.	"	8.	"	8.	"	12.
"	10,	14.	"	9.	"	5.	"	10.

INSTRUCTION.

The names of the teachers are given in the report of the Treasurer with the number of the school in which each one was employed. With one exception there have been thirty weeks of instruction, divided into terms of ten weeks, in the several schools, under the charge of eighteen different teachers, *two* males and *sixteen* females. The average wages, for males $51.25, for females $28.00. The Primary School in the village, which is numerically the largest in town, was continued only 22 weeks. Various reasons influenced the Board in submitting to this abridgment, among others, the cost of hiring an apartment, the inadequate accommodations, the necessity of curtailing other schools having older scholars, and the early winter making the regular attendance of little pupils somewhat uncertain. It is due to the teacher of this school to say, that under the disadvantages of a crowded room and other inconveniences, she secured most excellent order and a uniform improvement in all the pupils under her care, which deserves high commendation. Of the other teachers, with one or two exceptions, we can speak with cordial approbation. They have been earnest and faithful in their labors, and the general progress and tone of the schools have been gratifying. In several instances parents have expressed a desire that the same teacher might be employed for another year.

It does not seem best under the present arrangement to make a minute report of all the superior and inferior methods adopted by each of the teachers in the several schools and thus make or mar the reputation of a teacher or a school that under other circumstances would be entirely different. The only true way for the people of a community to learn the excellencies or defects of a school is to visit that school in person, and not rely on vague and often-times exaggerated rumors.

In many instances, if the parents would discuss the teacher less, in the presence of their children, and visit the school more, the result would amply repay the restraint on the one hand and the effort on the other.

The Board has uniformly endeavored to be careful in the selection of teachers, and the percentage of terms that may be considered unprofitable during the last year is small compared with that of some years in the past. This percentage of failures can be reduced nearly to zero in one way, and that is by reducing the number of schools in town until every school can be put in charge of a first class teacher. Under such an arrangement, the amount of money raised last year would be sufficient to give every pupil of school age in town, the benefit of superior instruction for the full term of thirty weeks. With the present number of schools, and the same sum of money, the experiment must often be made of employing inexperienced teachers. And, although a teacher's first term may be very successful, it generally takes longer training and larger experience to learn the business.

At this point it is proper to speak in praise of the Normal School methods of teaching, as in every case where these methods have been tried, great improvement has been made, especially in the reading by the smaller pupils. These methods are new to many schools, but they are undeniably an improvement on the old. With very few exceptions the teachers in town have shown a zeal for their work and a desire to interest their pupils which has awakened a genuine enthusiasm for study.

The deportment of the pupils has been better, taking the schools as a whole, than the average record, if we may judge by previous reports. If any have not conducted themselves as ladies and gentlemen, they need not be reminded of it here.

It may not be amiss to suggest a plan that would materially aid teachers in their work. The plan is this ; to hold monthly teachers meetings at some convenient place and there discuss with freedom different ways of explanation or of government. It would also be an advantage to all concerned to give one day in each term for teachers to visit other schools. The only objection to this is that we already have as many holidays as can well be spared from the number of school days.

EXPENSES.

The whole amount expended for the support of schools, including supervision, prudential services and miscellaneous expenses, not including repairs, is $3,013.11. Of this sum, $912.00 has been expended for teachers in the village and $1,541.98 for teachers in the other parts of the town. The average expense for instruction per scholar is $13.37.

In addition to monies expended for repairs, the Board has been subjected to some incidental expenses, which are not likely to occur again, as the powers and duties of its members are better understood. The checklist for the use of the Annual Meeting was prepared in compliance with a petition signed by more than the required number of legal voters, and this petition we could not rightfully refuse. As an appeal is to be made to the next Legislature for an act enabling the town to revive the district system, would it not be for the interest of our children to give the town system the co-operation of all our citizens, until the result of this action is known. No system in itself will secure the results we desire. The supervision is essentially the same under both systems. The practical question respects the union of the duties of the prudential committees with those of supervision. The utility of this arrangement can only be tested by a fair trial. The *district* system was not the original system. For one hundred and fifty years, schools were "organized and maintained by the towns under the direction of the selectmen."* To secure a more liberal support and to concentrate the interests of each neighborhood on its particular school, towns were divided into districts and in 1827, "the bill was passed which has been the basis of all our subsequent laws," for half a century. The system worked well while the population held the territory and the rural towns were not depleted by emigration. But a diminution of one half or more of the children in a district has so changed the circumstances that a new and perplexing problem presents itself; we cannot change the facts, that underlie the growing conviction, that there are too

* See report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1882, p. 240.

many districts, and that a more flexible arrangement may secure increased advantages for our children. The range of studies is necessarily becoming wider, and new subjects must receive attention. The schools in the cities and larger towns are employing new methods and securing professional teachers; and the questions, which most concern us, respect the ways and means by which we may keep our schools abreast of the foremost. To be content with the things that have been, is to fall behind. Hence the need of inquiry, of candid discussion and the exercise of a dispassionate judgment.

BOOKS.

No changes have been made in text books during the year. To secure greater variety and awaken interest in the exercises in reading, the several schools have been supplied with a few "Supplementary Readers" by a small appropriation from the Literary Fund. These books are the property of the District. The approved list embraces, Monroe's Readers and the Franklin Series. Arithmetic, Franklin Series; Grammar, Swinton's Language Lessons and Well's Grammer. Geography, Harper's School and Introductory, Robinson's Algebra, Greenleaf's Geometry, Nordhoff's Politics, Townsend's Civil Government, Natural Philosophy, Mahew's Book-Keeping, Harkness Latin Grammar and Reader.

The reports of the Treasurer are appended, with the details of expenditure for support of schools, and the furnishing and repairs of school houses.

Respectfully Submitted,

JOSIAH G. DAVIS,
GEORGE W. BOSWORTH,
GEORGE W. PUTNAM,
} Board of Education.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

— OF THE —

BOARD OF EDUCATION,

OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AMHERST, FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1883.

George W. Boeworth, Treasurer, in Account with School District of Amherst.

DR.

To cash in treasury as per last report,	$52	60
" " of Town Treas., as per vote at last Annual Meeting,	2,500	00
" " of Town Treas., Literary Fund,	131	15
" " " " Int. on Lawrence Fund,	56	00
" " " " Dog Tax,	127	00
" " " " school money from N. Boston,	36	94
" " " " " " " Mt. Vernon,	27	68
" " " " H. G. Dodge, tuition of scholar,	2	00
" " " " for old floor mat,		62
" " " " ashes,	2	50
Whole amount of cash for regular school expenses,	$2,936	49

REPAIRS.

DR.

To cash of Town Treas., as per vote at last Annual Meeting,		$1,000 00
" " " " for old windows,		2 75
" " " " " " desks,		1 00
" " " " paint, oil and cask,		1 25
" " " " shingles,		25
Whole amount of cash for repairs,		$1,005 25
Total amount of cash from all sources and for all purposes, - - -		$3,941 74

SALARIES OF TEACHERS.

CR.

Paid teachers of High School, 30 weeks,	$450 00	
" " Inter. " 30 "	280 00	
" " Primary " 22 "	182 00	
" " No. 2 " 30 "	195 95	
" " " 3 " 30 "	236 30	
" " " 5 " 30 "	185 50	
" " " 6 " 30 "	173 63	
" " " 7 " 30 "	205 00	
" " " 8 " 30 "	170 00	
" " " 9 " 30 "	180 00	
" " " 10 " 30 "	195 60	
		$2,453 98
Paid for fuel,	$161 03	
" " care of school houses,	72 77	
" " travelling expenses of pupils,	17 12	
" " town of Merrimack,	49 89	
" " rent for primary school room,	22 00	
" " supplementary readers,	30 60	
" " miscellaneous,	71 52	
		$424 93
		$2,878 91

REPAIRS ON SCHOOL HOUSES.

Paid Jas. C. Boutelle, labor,	$5	25
" E. R. Burtt, " and material fur.	89	49
" W. L. Winslow, " " "	5	15
" D. K. Marvell, "	1	00
" C. E. Wilkins, "	3	50
" E. W. Reed, "	2	25
" I. F. Caldwell, " and material,	10	90
" Emerson & Son, furniture,	5	25
" J. B. Fay, repairs and fixtures,	18	02
" J. G. Davis, horse hire,	17	92
" I. McKean, labor,	90	22
" G. Maxwell, horse hire,	16	95
" Cross & Tolles, lumber,	19	00
" Gregg & Son, windows and doors,	18	59
" A. P. Shepherd, white washing,	11	00
" I. Roby, labor,	9	90
" Geo. N. Bosworth, carrying painters to and from work,	3	15
" for furniture,	98	22
" Daniels & Co., material,	3	17
" S. H. Gilson, labor,	53	90
" Geo. Danforth, teaming &c.,	2	75
" H. C. Dodge, material for repairs,	53	34
" C. Cross, shingles,	10	00
" S. G. Mack & Co., material,	3	90
" J. F. Crosby, shingles,	31	67
" Jas. Cochran, labor,	4	00
" W. D. Forsaith, material,	22	14
" paint and oil,	71	00
" W. H. Hubbard, labor,	3	50
" C. W. Clark, furniture and fixtures,	32	00
" Geo. W. Bosworth, services and cash paid,	22	90
" miscellaneous,	33	28
Total amount paid for repairs,		$773 31

Whole amount of cash paid for all purposes,	$3,652 22
In hands of treasurer,	289 52
	$3,941 74

Of the amount in Treasury, $57 58 is for regular school expenses, and $231 94 is for repairs.

NAMES OF TEACHERS.

High School, 1st term, Carrie I Reed.
" " 2d & 3d term, Frank B. Pierce.
Intermediate School, three terms, Ella F. Richardson.
Primary School, two terms, Emma F. Robertson.
No. 2, first term, Etta L. Mace.
No. 2, second and third term, Carrie E. Parkhurst.
No. 3, first and second term, Mary E. Russell.
No. 3, third term, Emma F. Robertson.
No. 5, first and second term, Bertha I. Sawtelle.
No. 5, third term, Eldora L. Mooar.
No. 6, first and second term, Mary E. Wheeler.
No. 6, third term, Mary E. Noyes.
No. 7, first term, Annie M. Putnam.
No. 7, second term, Lura S. Sawin.
No. 7, third term, J. Edward Upton.
No. 8, first, second and third term, Hattie M. Hartshorn.
No. 9, first term, Esther C. Kendall.
No. 9, second and third term, Lizzie E. Hill.
No. 10, first and second term, Jennie L. Thompson.
No. 10, third term, Lura S. Sawin.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE W. BOSWORTH, Treas.

I hereby certify that I have examined and audited the foregoing accounts of the Treasurer of the School District of Amherst, for the year ending March, 1883, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

P. W. DODGE, Auditor.

Amherst, March 9, 1883.